

## Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 SS-20 ISO-00 SSO-00 EB-11 SP-03 PM-07 INR-11

L-03 DRC-01 RSC-01 /072 W

----- 015369

R 220251Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0487

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 6518

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FROM AMBASSADOR TO DEPUTY SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEAN

SUBJECT: US-ASEAN ECONOMIC CONSULTATION

REF: A. STATE 176399

B. SINGAPORE 3381

1. WHILE LAOS IS, TO DATE, ONLY PERIPHERALLY INVOLVED WITH ASEAN, WE SEE NO MAJOR REASON WHY USG SHOULD NOT ENGAGE IN CONSULTATIONS WITHASEAN AS PROPOSED REFTTEL AND IN FACT WE CAN SEE SOME POSSIBLE ADVANTAGES.

2. WE HAVE NOTED ASEAN'S EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE TO THE LAO COALITION GOVERNMENT (PGNU). THIS IS A LAUDABLE OBJECTIVE AND, IF CARRIED OUT, WOULD, OF COURSE, BE HELPFUL IN REASSURING TWO SIDES IN LAOS AND CONTRIBUTING TO MAINTENANCE OF CEASEFIRE, AND  
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TO IMPROVEMENT IN REGIONAL COOPERATION. HOWEVER, IT IS

EQUALLY CLEAR THAT BETWEEN CUP AND LIP FALLS THE SHADOW  
OF ASEAN BEING NEITHER ORGANIZED NOR AS YET SUFFICIENTLY  
DETERMINED TO UNDERTAKE ANY MEANINGFUL MULTILATERAL REGIONAL  
EFFORT.

3. AS SEEN FROM HERE, ASEAN'S SCOPE REMAINS SEVERELY LIMITED  
DESPITE HIGH HOPES AND GOOD WISHES WE BESTOW ON IT. PROB-  
LEM OF ASEA, AS NOTED IN CERTAIN MESSAGES, IS TO DEVELOP  
ENOUGH COHESION AND CONFIDENCE TO ACT AS A UNIT. UNTIL THIS  
HAPPENS, WE DOUBT ASEAN QUA ASEAN WILL MAKE MUCH OF A CON-  
TRIBUTION--POLITICALLY OR ECONOMICALLY--IN INDOCHINA.  
THUS, THE MAIN ADVANTAGE WE SEE IN PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS  
FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE IS THAT IT WOULD GIVE FURTHER IMPETUS  
TO ASEAN COUNTRIES' SEARCH FOR COMMON INTERESTS AND FOR  
UNITY OF PURPOSE.  
WHITEHOUSE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, INSTRUCTIONS, MEETINGS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 AUG 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974VIENTI06518  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740231-0309  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Reference:** A. STATE 176399  
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**Review Authority:** boyleja  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 JUL 2002  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US-ASEAN ECONOMIC CONSULTATION  
**TAGS:** ECON, EAID, LA, ASEAN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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